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PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): Mitaka et al.

Examiner: Unassigned

Application No.: 10/676,292

Group Art: 1651

Filed: October 1, 2003

Docket: 1285-7 PCT/CON

For: SMALL HEPATOCYTE-RICH  
COLONIES, PROCESS FOR PREPARING  
THE COLONIES, PROCESS FOR MATURATING  
THE COLONIES INTO LIVER TISSUE AND METHOD  
OF ESTIMATING EFFECTS OF DRUG BY USING  
MATURED SMALL HEPATOCYTE-RICH COLONIES  
AND STANDARD MOLECULES FOR THE METHODS

Dated: June 17, 2004

I hereby certify this correspondence is being deposited with  
United States Postal Service as first class mail, postpaid in  
an envelope, addressed to: Commissioner for Patents,  
P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: June 17, 2004

Signature: Barbara Thomas

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

In fulfillment of the requirements of candor and good faith set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56,  
Applicant submits herewith the following Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement in  
accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.97 and 1.98.

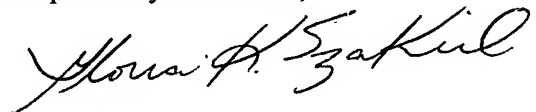
As this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed with the application and before the issuance of the first Office Action, no fee is deemed necessary.

All of the references are listed on Applicant's Substitute Form PTO-1449 which is attached to this Information Disclosure Statement for the convenience of the Examiner. Copies of each of these references are attached herewith.

The references have been cited in a Supplementary European Search Report, in connection with corresponding European patent application EP 02718561. A copy of this Search Report is enclosed. The precise relevance of these references are not known apart from having been cited in the Search Report.

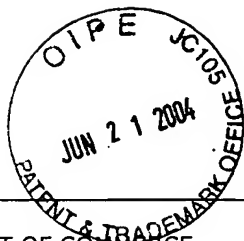
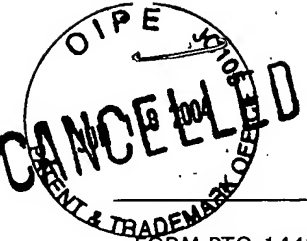
Should the Examiner have any questions or comments concerning the above, the Examiner is respectfully invited to contact the undersigned agent at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



Gloria K. Szakiel  
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FORM PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
(Rev. 2-32) PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICEINFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

ATTY. DOCKET NO.  
1285-7 PCT/CONSERIAL NO.  
10/676,292APPLICANT  
Mitaka et al.CONFIRMATION NO.  
7064FILING DATE  
October 1, 2003GROUP  
1651

## U.S. PATENT PUBLICATIONS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
	WO 01/92481	12/06/01	PCT				
	WO 00/43498	7/27/00	PCT				

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

		Sato et al.; Effects of Nicotinamide-related agents on the growth of primary rat hepatocytes and formation of small hepatocyte colonies; Liver, Copenhagen, DK; Vol. 19, No. 6; pages 481-488; December 1999 XP00953291
		Mooney et al.; Switching from Differentiation to Growth in Hepatocytes: Control by Extracellular Matrix; Journal of Cellular Physiology, New York, NY; Vol. 151, No. 3; pages 497-505; June 1, 1992; XP002001158
		Yoon et al.; Adhesion behaviours of hepatocytes cultured onto biodegradable polymer surface modified by alkali hydrolysis process; Journal of Biomaterials Science, Polymer Edition, VSP, Utrecht, NL; Vol. 10, No. 11, pages 1145-1158; 1999; XP-001070310

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication with applicant.